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## ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Intelligence from the army of the Potomac represents Gen. Lee to be in force on the South side of the Rapidan. It is said, however, that there is no longer any doubt that Longstreet has gone South and has probably joined Johnston. The only Confederate troops that were known to be in front of the Army of the Potomac were the corps of Generals Hill and Ewell. Active skirmishing has been going on from opposite sides of the river for several days past, but without effecting any material result. On Friday, heavy firing was heard in the direction of the Rapidan, and apparently in the vicinity of Raccoon Ford, and it has since been ascertained that the numerical strength of the Confederates has been largely increased by reinforcements from some unknown quarter. Under these circumstances, it seems to be understood that the battle which at one time was supposed to be imminent, will not be fought at present.

## FROM CHARLESTON.

Advices from off Charleston bar, up to Wednesday last report that General Gilmore was busily engaged in mounting heavy guns at Fort Wagner and Cumming's Point, with the intention of resuming the bombardment of Charleston. The Federal troops were considerably annoyed by the Confederate batteries on James Island, but the casualties are said to have been but few. Fort Sumter was still in the hands of the Confederates, and is being repaired by them. Deserters state that Gen. Beauregard intends to strengthen Sumter and plant more batteries on James Island, and then assume the offensive, to recover if possible, the possession of Morris Island. It is also stated that Gen. Gilmore will not be able to open fire on Charleston for a week yet to come, as the mounting of guns on the north end of the island proves to be slow work. General Gillmore had issued an order congratulating the troops on the capture of the Island, and claiming that the "city and harbor of Charleston lie at the mercy of his artillery."

By the arrival at New York of the steamer City of Cork, from Liverpool, on the 7th, we have the intelligence of the arrival at Paris of the deputy from Mexico appointed to offer the crown of the new Empire to the Archduke Maximilian, and it now seems positive that the Duke will accept. The Pays of the 5th believes that the acceptance no longer admits of a doubt. The same journal discredits the official source of the late pamphlet on the subject of a recognition of the Confederate States. The Paris correspondent of the London Globe repeats his former statement that the pamphlet in question heralds immediately a prompt recognition of the Confederacy by the Emperor.

## THE TEXAS EXPEDITION.

From New Orleans we learn that the expedition which has been organizing at that point for some time past, commenced, previously to the 11th inst., its march upon Texas in three columns. One column under Washburne, was thrown forward to Bayou Boeuf; another column, under Herron, moved simultaneously up the Mississippi to Red river; whilst, in the meanwhile, a third division under Franklin embarked on transports and moved down the river towards the Gulf. Nothing was known of the progress of the combined movement until the 11th, when it was reported that several of Franklin's transports from Sabine Pass had returned to New Orleans, and that others were coming up the river. It was subsequently ascertained that the gunboats Clifton and Sachem were attacked by the Confederate batteries at Sabine Pass; that whilst under a heavy fire, the Clifton grounded, and some one on board hoisted a white flag in token of surrender. The captain then fired one of his heaviest guns into the machinery, and, after disabling it, spiked his guns. In the meantime, two Confederate gunboats came down the Pass and captured the Sachem with all on board. Franklin's gunboats and transports entered the Pass just in time to see the last of this brief action, but why his transports were subsequently ordered back to New Orleans is not stated. Two companies of the 75th New York, on board the Clifton, were all killed and wounded, or taken prisoners.

A letter in a Northern paper from Memphis learns, from a "reliable gentleman" from Arkansas, "that a duel was fought at Bayou Metairie, Sunday, the 6th instant, between the Confederate Generals Marmaduke and Marsh Walker, in which the latter was mortally wounded."

The Easton (Md.) Gazette of Saturday, says:—"The steamer Cecil arrived at the wharf at Easton Point on Thursday night last, with a government officer on board, for the purpose of recruiting persons of color.—There were some two hundred left yesterday morning in the steamer Champion, while the steamer Cecil remained and will take off a load in a short time."

From all accounts a most fearful state of affairs exists all along the borders of Missouri and Kansas.

The New York Express says:—"The Mobile via Memphis story about Joe Johnson superseding Gen. Lee in the command of the army of Northern Virginia, is undoubtedly a canard. The Mobile telegram is dated 6th—whereas we have Richmond papers ten days later, showing that Gen. Lee is where he has been from the start—at the head of the Confederate army in Virginia."

Governor Cortes, of the Mexican State of Sonora, had an interview with Secretary Seward on Saturday, rumor says for the purpose of establishing an alliance with the U. S. Government against Mexico.

The weather now is quite cool, and there was frost, in the neighborhood of town, last night.

## GUERRILLAS AT WORK.

The Army correspondent of the New York Herald writes from near Rapidan on the 17th:

About fifty of White's guerrillas, under command of Lieutenant Smith, at three o'clock yesterday morning made a raid into Fayetteville, five miles from Warrenton, captured several sutlers and their clerks, took the contents of the sutlers' purses and burned the wagons and such goods as they could not take with them. The sutlers, having no means of defence, were obliged, of course, to succumb and hand over their green backs to their captors, give themselves up to their custody, and look quietly upon the ruthless appropriation and burning of their goods and vehicles.—Most of those captured subsequently escaped.

The raiders drank too much of the sutler's champagne, and were too busy looking after their booty to keep a watchful look after their prisoners. Mr. Satterly lost three thousand eight hundred dollars' worth of goods, and five horses, and one wagon burned. Mr. Simpson lost one hundred and fifty dollars in money and two thousand dollars' worth of goods. Messrs. Roberts & White attached to General Birney's headquarters, lost eight hundred dollars in money and one thousand five hundred dollars in goods.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—On Thursday thirteen horses, and three full wagons, together with five men, fell into the hands of fifteen guerrillas, commanded by Captain Stringfellow, while on their way from Catlett's to Bristoe Station. These teams had been separated from the four others in the train when the guerrillas suddenly approached from the woods, and seized and drove them beyond the possibility of recapture. A negro driver was fired at three times but escaped unhurt, owing to his activity in dodging the shots.

## A DENIAL.

A statement was published in a New York paper some days since, representing Colonel Hill as telling General Custer, under a flag of truce at Fredericksburg, that "there would soon be peace," adding certain reasons in support of this prophecy. The statement, it now appears, was incorrect. The Richmond Sentinel of the 16th instant publishes a card from Col. Robert C. Hill, of the Forty-eighth North Carolina Regiment, in which he says that he had an interview with General Custer, as stated, on the 18th of August, but that it had reference to picket firing opposite Fredericksburg, and nothing at all was said as to peace. Col. Hill adds:

"I am opposed to peace on any terms short of a submission of the Federals to such terms as we may dictate; which, in my opinion, should be Mason and Dixon's line as boundary, the exclusive navigation of the Mississippi below Cairo, full indemnification for all the negroes stolen and property destroyed the restoration of Fortress Monroe, Jefferson, Key West, and all other strongholds which may have fallen into their possession during the war. If they are unwilling to accede to these terms, I propose an indefinite continuance of the war until the now existing fragments of the old Union break to pieces from mere rottenness and want of cohesion, when we will step in as the only first-class power on the western hemisphere, and take possession of the pieces as subjugated and conquered provinces."

The health of Gen. Cass, it is now said, is improving, and he is considered out of danger.